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BOROUGH OF



STALYBRIDGE.

ANNUAL
REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
AND
CHIEF SANITARY
INSPECTOR
1954



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BOROUGH OF STALYBRIDGE

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(December, 1954)

Chairman	-	-	-	-	-	-	Alderman A. Allen.
Deputy Chairman	-	-	-	-	-	-	Councillor J. D. Lilley.
The Mayor	-	-	-	-	-	-	Councillor D. Stanley.
Alderman	Gillott						Councillor Sleigh
Councillor	Grinter					"	Taylor
"	Healey					"	Wainwright
"	Myers					"	Whelan
"	Patten					"	White
"	Porter					"	Wynroe
"	Shaw						

S T A F F.

THOMAS HOLME, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. - Medical Officer of Health,
Divisional Medical Officer,
Divisional School Medical
Officer, Stalybridge and
Dukinfield Health Division.

J. NORRIS, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., - Chief Sanitary Inspector &
Cleansing Superintendent.

Inspector under Contagious
Diseases of Animals Act.

C. F. SPENCER, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.-Additional Sanitary Inspector.

A. CLOUGH - Chief Clerk.

MISS J. NORTON

MISS D. OLLERENSHAW

J. T. PETRIE (Resigned September, 1954)

MISS K. SELLARS

MISS O. B. BUTTERWORTH (Appointed temporarily Feb. - July 1954)

T. N. DARRAUGH (Appointed November, 1954)

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to present my sixth Annual Report for your consideration. It is based on the work of the Public Health Department during 1954 and includes extracts from my Annual Report on those services in the area which are administered by Cheshire County Council under Part III of the National Health Services Act, 1946.

The reduced birth rate of 1953 was continued into 1954 and the figure of 14.798 was almost the same as the previous year. The death rate continues to drop and another low record was established of 12.688 per thousand population. The infantile mortality rate was higher than last year and represents one more death than occurred in 1953.

The outstanding feature of the year and one which gave the department most satisfaction was the survey of the houses in the town and the preparation of a report on their condition. That there were substandard houses in the town was well recognised but the size of the problem was not capable of definition until the detailed investigation was completed. The standard adopted was as laid down in the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and it was found that 1,948 properties could be considered unfit when these criteria were applied. This is a high percentage of the total houses in the town and their elimination will greatly improve the social conditions of over 4,000 inhabitants.

There was an outbreak of Sonne Dysentery during the year which originated in the Millbrook area. Primarily because of the mildness of the condition and because of a carrier state which is symptomless the outbreak was difficult to bring under control but this was eventually achieved. While Sonne Dysentery is comparatively mild its control is identical with that of the more severe types of dysentery, typhoid fever and other excremental diseases and the experience gained by the department through this epidemic was invaluable.

In conclusion I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their invaluable help and co-operation, and the members of the staff for their loyal support throughout the year.

Yours obediently,

T. HOLME.

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1955.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH.

Area (in acres)	3,190
Population Census, 1951	22,544
Population mid-year 1954 (estimated)...	22,540
Estimated value of a Penny Rate	£446
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1954	£113,585
No. of houses in Borough (approx.)	7,534
No. of business premises... ..	1,493

LIVE BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total	Total
Legitimate	183	130	313)	
Illegitimate... ..	6	8	14)	527
Live Birth rate per 1,000 population				
crude		-	14.507	
corrected		-	14.798	

STILL BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total	Total
Legitimate	7	5	12)	
Illegitimate... ..	-	-	-)	12
Still Birth rate per 1,000 live and still births		-	35.398	

DEATHS

	Male	Female	Total
All causes	136	150	286
Death rate per 1,000 population			
crude		-	12.688
corrected		-	12.688

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Death rate of infants per 1,000 livebirths	-	27.523
Neo-natal Death Rate	-	18.348

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE (per 1,000 livebirths)	-	0.000
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PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE DISTRICT.

The Borough of Stalybridge is roughly triangular in shape, bordered on the south by the Municipal Borough of Dukinfield, on the north west by the Municipal Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne and on the north and east by Mossley and Mottram respectively.

The River Tame, which at this point is the boundary of Lancashire and Cheshire, divides the town; the northern half lies in Lancashire, whilst the southern half lies in Cheshire. For administrative purposes the Borough is considered to be in Cheshire.

The Borough, surrounded by hills on all sides except the West, is situate on the westerly slopes of the Pennine Chain, 7½ miles east of Manchester and, although the main portion of the town is built round the River Tame at approximately 400 feet above sea level, the ground on the eastern side rises to a height of 1,000 feet.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Although the industries in the town are varied cotton remains the most important in relation to numbers employed. I am indebted to Mr. Gove of the Ministry of Labour and National Service who has kindly supplied me with statistics which show that the average number of wholly unemployed during 1954 was 74 (57 men and 17 women) the highest figure being 103 in February and the lowest being 44 in December. These figures include 25 disabled persons of which 24 are men. The number of persons engaged in textiles amounted to 4,557 as against a figure of 4,226 in 1953. This represents approximately 40% of the insured population of 11,029.

A survey of the houses in the Borough was completed during the year and a report was submitted to the Health Committee in November. This report which was used as a basis for preparing the proposals under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act described 1,948 properties which it was considered should be dealt with as unfit for human habitation. A vigorous programme of demolition has been drawn up by the Council and it is hoped that during the next fifteen years approximately 2,000 families will benefit from improved housing conditions. Tables I, II and III summarise briefly some of the findings of the survey; in each case the houses have been grouped A, B, C & D, A being the worst houses and D those with the least number of defects

The figure of 25% for unfit houses may appear to be a high proportion but it must be remembered that the town expanded very rapidly during and after the Industrial Revolution and no major slum clearance has taken place in the last sixteen years.

TABLE I.

No. of Class II houses in Groups and Areas.

District	A	B	C	D	Total
HEYROD	-	2	53	35	70
MILLBROOK & HEYHEADS	3	30	15	-	48
CASTLE HALL AREA	77	243	357	102	779
MARKET STREET, CHAPEL STREET	46	15	-	6	67
HUDDERSFIELD RD., STOCKS LANE	72	22	6	-	100
BACK GROSVENOR STREET	31	29	8	-	68
ACRES LANE	3	31	1	1	36
HYDES	138	102	155	78	473
COCKER HILL	19	10	40	27	96
NORTH END	-	9	14	-	23
MOUNT	29	57	61	42	189
TOTAL	418	550	690	291	1949

TABLE II.

Back-to-Back houses in areas.

District	A	B	C	D	Total
HEYROD	-	2	6	1	9
MILLBROOK & HEYHEADS	-	21	13	-	34
CASTLE HALL	12	31	44	2	89
MARKET STREET, CHAPEL STREET	8	-	-	-	8
HUDDERSFIELD RD., STOCKS LANE	58	13	-	-	71
BACK GROSVENOR STREET	2	-	-	-	2
ACRES LANE	2	15	1	-	18
HYDES	19	20	6	-	45
COCKER HILL	4	5	3	1	13
NORTH END	-	-	-	-	-
MOUNT	2	9	11	-	22
TOTAL	107	116	84	4	311

TABLE III.

Households sharing Sanitary Conveniences.

District	A	B	C	D	Total
HEYROD	-	2	33	3	38
MILLBROOK & HEYHEADS	2	29	15	-	46
CASTLE HALL	56	216	313	53	638
MARKET STREET, CHAPEL STREET	32	10	-	6	48
HUDDERSFIELD ROAD, STOCKS LANE	66	22	6	-	94
BACK GROSVENOR STREET	20	22	5	-	47
ACRES LANE	2	16	1	1	20
HYDES	107	74	102	25	308
COCKER HILL	19	9	36	26	90
NORTH END	-	-	2	-	2
MOUNT	26	33	42	39	140
TOTAL	330	433	555	153	1471
% of group	79.9	78.7	80.4	52.6	74.8

BIRTH RATE.

During the year 327 births were recorded in the Borough of which 189 were males and 138 females giving a crude live-birth rate of 14.798 per thousand population. This figure is comparable with that for 1953 when the total births numbered 336. The number of male births increased and this was followed by a comparable reduction in the number of females born.

Table IV shows the comparative figures for the remainder of the country etc.

DEATH RATE.

During the year there were 286 deaths in the Borough of which 136 were males and 150 females, giving a crude death rate of 12.688 per thousand estimated population.

The standardised death rate for Stalybridge, that is the death rate adjusted for the particular variations in age and sex distribution of Stalybridge compared with the country as a whole is 12.688 a figure similar to that for 1953. Heart disease remains the commonest cause of death, the next in order of frequency being vascular lesions of the nervous system with 50 cases, cancer with 43 cases and diseases of the respiratory system with 32 cases.

Once again there were 2 fatal motor accidents a figure which has been constant since 1952, and there were five suicides recorded during the year.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

The infantile mortality increased slightly in 1954 to 27.523 per thousand related livebirths from 23.809 the year before. This figure is made up of 6 male and 3 female deaths which are analysed in Table VI.

NEO-NATAL DEATH RATE.

The neo-natal death rate which represents the number of deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age per thousand livebirths is 18.348 compared with 14.881 in 1953.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

I am pleased to report there were no maternal deaths during the year.

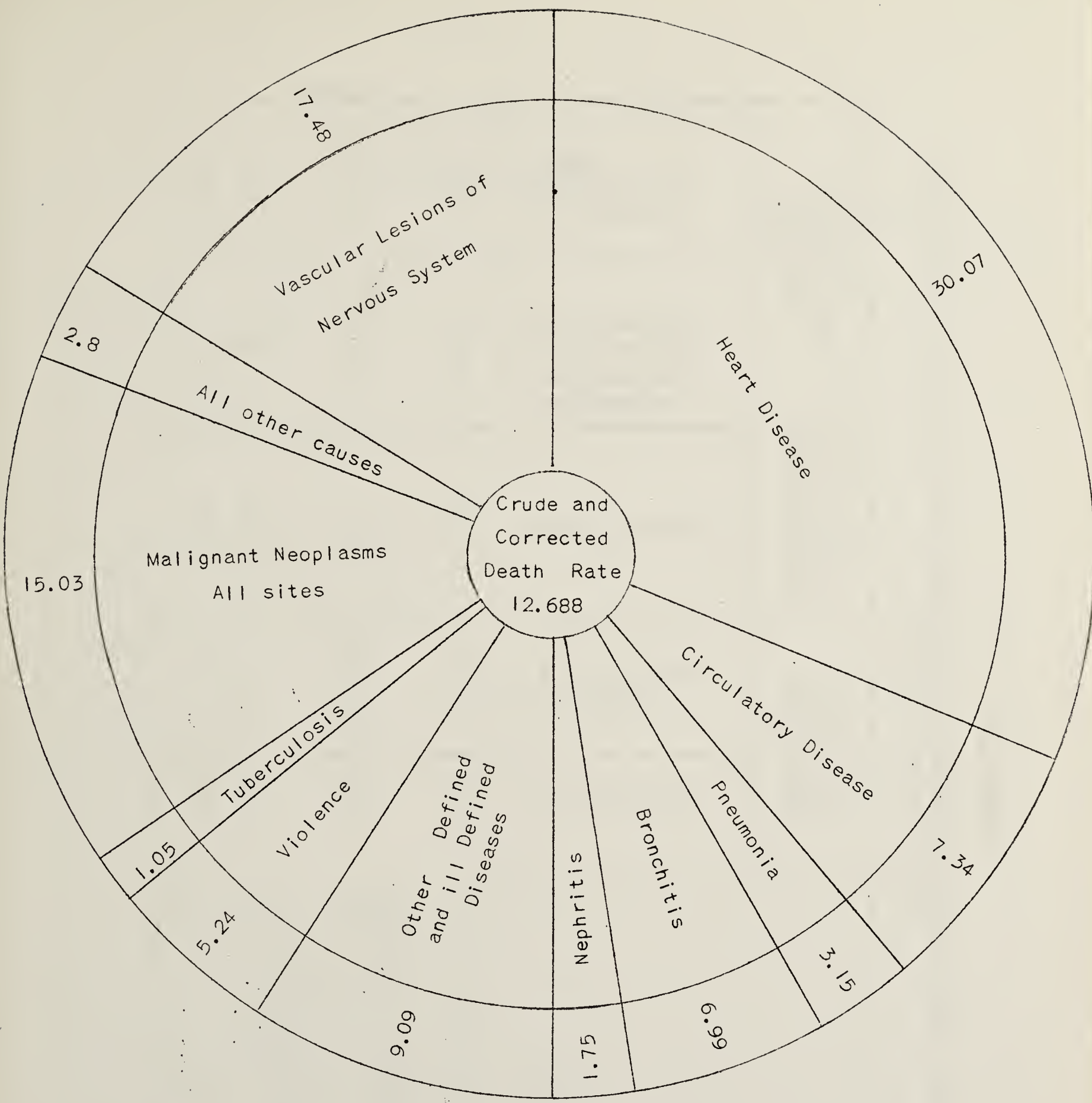


TABLE IV.

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY during the YEAR, 1954.
(Provisional figures)

	Rate per 1000 Total Population		Rate per 1000 Live & Stillbirths	Rate per 1000 Related Births	
	Livebirths	Deaths all causes	Stillbirths	Diarrhoea and Enter- itis (under two years)	All Causes (under one year)
England and Wales.....	15.22	13.32	27.37	0.80	25.5
County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.....	16.82	12.05	25.6	0.87	29.15
Smaller Towns (1951 Resident Populations, 25,000 - 50,000).....	15.40	11.30	22.35	0.50	23.77
STALYBRIDGE.....	14.80	12.68	35.40	1.51	27.52

TABLE V.

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN 1954

CAUSE OF DEATH

	Male	Female	Total all ages
Tuberculosis Respiratory.....	2	-	2
Tuberculosis Other.....	-	1	1
Syphilitic Disease.....	-	-	-
Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.....	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections.....	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
Measles.....	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases.....	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm - stomach.....	11	4	15
Malignant Neoplasm - lung and bronchus.....	5	-	5
Malignant Neoplasm - breast.....	-	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm - uterus.....	-	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.....	11	7	18
Leukaemia and aleukaemia.....	-	-	-
Diabetes.....	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	17	33	50
Coronary disease, angina.....	18	8	26
Hypertension with heart disease.....	1	2	3
Other heart disease.....	18	39	57
Other circulatory disease.....	10	11	21
Influenza.....	-	-	-
Pneumonia.....	5	4	9
Bronchitis.....	9	11	20
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	1	2	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	1	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea.....	1	2	3
Nephritis and nephrosis.....	4	1	5
Hyperplasia of prostate.....	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	-	-	-
Congenital malformations.....	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	11	15	26
Motor vehicle accidents.....	2	-	2
All other accidents.....	4	4	8
Suicide.....	4	1	5
Homicide and operations of war.....	-	-	-
ALL CAUSES	136	150	286

TABLE VI.

BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE MORTALITY

RATES IN THE BOROUGH FROM 1900

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
1900 - 04	24.58	20.1	210
1905 - 09	23.01	18.63	193.2
1910 - 14	21.63	17.92	165.48
1915 - 19	16.83	17.75	130.9
1920 - 24	18.56	15.08	114.9
1925 - 29	14.97	14.80	81.1
1930 - 34	13.47	13.78	73.80
1935 - 39	12.94	15.02	54.6
1940 - 44	15.42	16.11	60.57
1945 - 49	18.78	14.98	45.69
1950	15.39	13.58	28.73
1951	15.61	15.83	28.41
1952	17.07	14.73	33.67
1953	14.927	13.016	23.809
1954	14.798	12.688	27.523

TABLE VII

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1954.

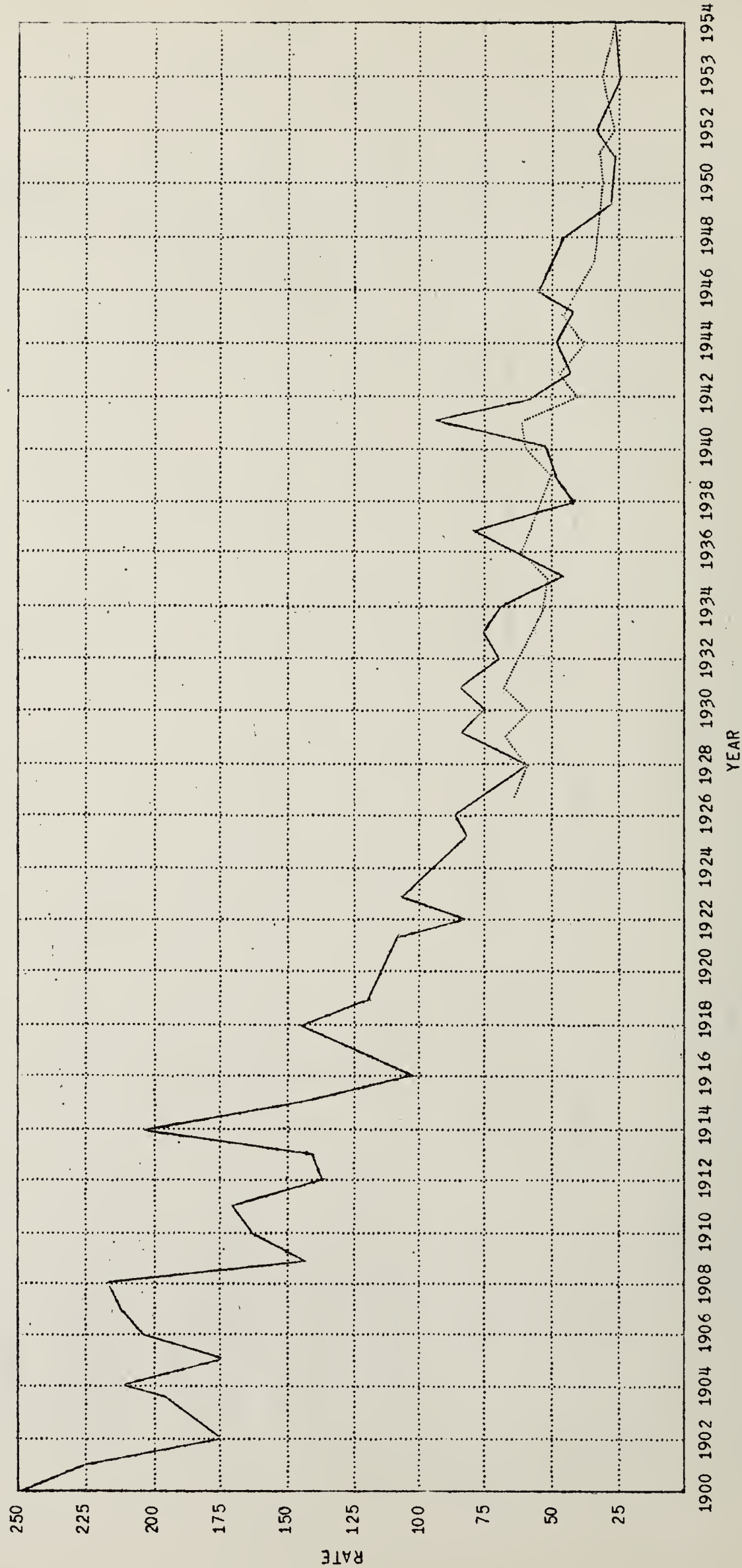
CAUSE OF DEATH	A G E (MONTHS)																Total all ages	Rate 1000 Live Births								
	-1		1-		2-		3-		4-		5-		6-		7-				8-		9-		10-		11-	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Bronchitis.....	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3.058
Vascular Lesions. of Nervous System.....	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3.058
Other Defined & Ill-defined Diseases.....	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	15.290
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3.058
Other Accidents.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3.058
Total	3	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	3	27.522

- Neo Natal Rate 18.348 compared with that for 1953 14.881

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE - STALYBRIDGE (1900 - 1954)

STALYBRIDGE INFANTILE MORTALITY per 1000 live-births

ENGLAND & WALES INFANTILE MORTALITY per 1000 live-births



GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH

SERVICES IN THE AREA.

BACTERIOLOGY.

Swabs and samples for examination continue to be sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester. The number of specimens examined increased to 1,519 as a direct result of the presence of Sonne Dysentery in the town and the details are set out below :-

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Total</u>
Swab	-	1	1
Sputum	-	1	1
Faeces	733	781	1514
Throat Swabs	-	2	2
Meat	1	-	1
Total	734	785	1519

I would again like to express my appreciation of the work of the Public Health Laboratory. I have found Dr. Parker and his staff most helpful at all times and their co-operation has greatly assisted this department in any investigation it has made.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

During the year 37 samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for the methylene blue test and for biological testing for tuberculosis; in all 71 examinations were carried out and of these only 3 proved to be unsatisfactory. 2 samples failed to pass the methylene blue test and 1 sample was found to be infected with tubercle bacilli. Action was taken on the one tuberculous sample through the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and as a result the herd was cleared of infection. Further details and comparative figures will be found on page 34 in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

In no instance was it found necessary to take action under Section 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

It would appear that the introduction of the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 31) Order is already having a beneficial effect as the number of samples

receiving an adverse report was only 3 compared with 6 the previous year and there was only 1 instance of milk contaminated with tubercle bacilli.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Dr. Gauchi of the Ministry of Food paid a visit to the Borough in May following an application by the Council for status as an authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. He made a detailed inspection of the environmental health services administered by Stalybridge but was not able to recommend any change in the present arrangements for administering the Food and Drugs Act. The authority therefore remains with the County Council.

The samples of food noted below were obtained in the Borough during the year by the Weights and Measures Department of the Cheshire County Council. Mr. Stacey Hallard, the Chief Inspector reports as follows :-

One sample reported against was in respect of the retail sale of a bottle of pasteurised milk which although found to be 4.7% deficient in non fatty solids was certified as "genuine but abnormal" and accordingly no action was necessary.

The fact that all the samples taken proved to be genuine is a highly satisfactory result.

No. of Samples taken					Results of Analysis.	
					Genuine	Reported against
Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine	...	...	...	...	1	-
Birds Blancmange powder	...	...	...	...	1	-
Camphor ice	...	...	...	...	2	-
Cascara Sagrada	...	...	...	...	1	-
Curry powder	...	...	...	...	1	-
Epsom salt	...	...	...	...	2	-
Liquid Paraffin	...	...	...	...	2	-
Mercury ointment Diluted	...	...	...	...	1	-
Milks	...	...	...	...	62	1
Salicylic Acid Ointment	...	...	...	...	2	-
Sausage, pork...	...	...	...	...	2	-
Sodium bicarbonate	...	...	...	...	1	-
Sulphur, flowers of...	...	...	...	...	2	-
Sulphur ointment	...	...	...	...	2	-
Sulphur and treacle...	...	...	...	...	1	-
Zinc ointment...	...	...	...	...	1	-
					84	1

WATER SUPPLIES.

18 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and results were recorded as follows :-

4 samples of the Town's water were found to be satisfactory and 2 unsatisfactory.

4 samples of a small chlorinated supply serving 185 houses in the Millbrook district were found to be satisfactory and 6 unsatisfactory.

2 samples of the spring supply in the Carrbrook area were taken - 1 was satisfactory and 1 unsatisfactory.

The Engineer and Manager of the Ashton-u-Lyne, Stalybridge, Dukinfield (District) Waterworks, Mr. M. T. B. Whitson, reports on the Stalybridge water supplies as follows :-

The quality and quantity of the water have both been satisfactory.

Bacteriological examination of piped supplies.

<u>Type of water</u>	<u>Samples Taken</u>	<u>Results</u>
Raw	None	-
Filtered water - taken directly after filtration	12	Quite satisfactory.
Filtered water - tap samples taken at various points in the Borough	30	Quite satisfactory.
Chemical Analysis	2	Quite satisfactory.

Plumbo Solvency. Calcium Carbonate added before filtration. 16 samples were taken and the results were all satisfactory.

No form of contamination has presented itself.

Population supplied from public water mains :-

- (a) Direct to Houses - 22,544.
- (b) By means of stand pipes - NONE.

HIGHER HYDE GREEN SUPPLY.

It was found that, in spite of the installation of a piped water supply to this area, the pressure of water was too low to maintain a sufficient flow. Steps were taken by Mr. M. T. B. Whitson to remedy this fault and I am now able to give a satisfactory report.

SPRING SUPPLY - CARRBROOK AREA.

Work was commenced on this supply and has now been completed.

TABLE VIII.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVERINFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Infectious Disease Notifications
1954.

DISEASE	All ages	Nos. notified in age groups								Age un- known	Removed to Hosp.	Total deaths in district
		1- -1	1- 16	3- 20	5- 54	10- 14	15- 24	25- 44	45- 64			
Scarlet Fever.....	10	-	1	1	7	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Diphtheria.....	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.....	57	5	16	14	20	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Measles.....	17	3	7	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.....	14	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	2	-	-	9
Ophthalmia Neon....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
+Dysentery.....	58	1	13	8	15	5	2	7	2	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.....	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal mening.	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Erysipelas.....	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis pulm..	26	-	1	2	1	-	4	11	4	-	22	2
Tuberc. non-pulm..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTAL.....	193	11	39	27	53	7	11	22	16	-	25	12

+ 77 additional cases not notified by General Practitioners.

TABLE IX.

Incidence of the Main Infectious Diseases.1947 - 1954.

	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	4
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	10	25	38	10	24	17	23	8
Tuberculosis (all forms)	27	14	26	32	22	18	18	28
Measles	17	423	70	588	47	237	91	464
Whooping Cough	57	122	82	86	165	95	75	36
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	159	30	24	60	10	25	10	17
Total	270	614	242	776	268	395	217	557

SPECIFIC INFECTIONS.DIPHTHERIA.

Once again I can report that there were no cases of diphtheria in 1954, and it is satisfactory to note that only one case has occurred in the past eight years. Immunisation is carried out free by the General Practitioners and at the clinics and the number of children protected will be found in the section of the report which deals with the services administered by the Divisional Health Committee.

SCARLET FEVER.

The number of scarlet fever cases notified was only 10 and these were of the usual mild type.

PNEUMONIA.

14 cases were notified during the year and deaths classified to this cause numbered 9.

TYHPOID FEVER.

There are no cases of typhoid fever to report during 1954.

POLIOMYELITIS.

I am happy to be able to report that 1954 was another year free from this disease.

TUBERCULOSIS.

33 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis have been notified and of these 6 were cases transferred from other areas. 2 persons were certified as having died from pulmonary tuberculosis and one from non-pulmonary tuberculosis as compared with 1 pulmonary tuberculosis in 1953. Further comments on this disease together with a report on the scheme of B.C.G. vaccination will be found in the section which deals with the work of the Divisional Health Committee.

TABLE X.

Cases of Tuberculosis remaining on Register
at December 1951 - 1954.

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1951	45	46	17	17	62	63
1952	50	51	17	16	67	67
1953	59	57	16	16	75	73
1954	75	62	15	13	90	75

Table XI indicates the speed of disposal of all patients requiring sanatorium treatment.

TABLE XI.

Cases having received treatment before notification	5
Cases notified but not admitted to hospital.....	6
Admitted within one month of notification.....	15
Admitted within two months of notification.....	1
Total (pulmonary and non-pulmonary)	27

CANCER.

There was a reduction in the number of deaths from cancer which fell to 43 from 48 in 1953.

FOOD POISONING.

There were no outbreaks of food poisoning during the year. There were, however, 4 cases of infection with salmonella-tyhpi murium, but in spite of a careful investigation in each case the source of the infection was not traced, nor was it possible to establish any connection between the cases which were scattered throughout the town and were notified at different times of the year.

SONNE DYSENTERY.

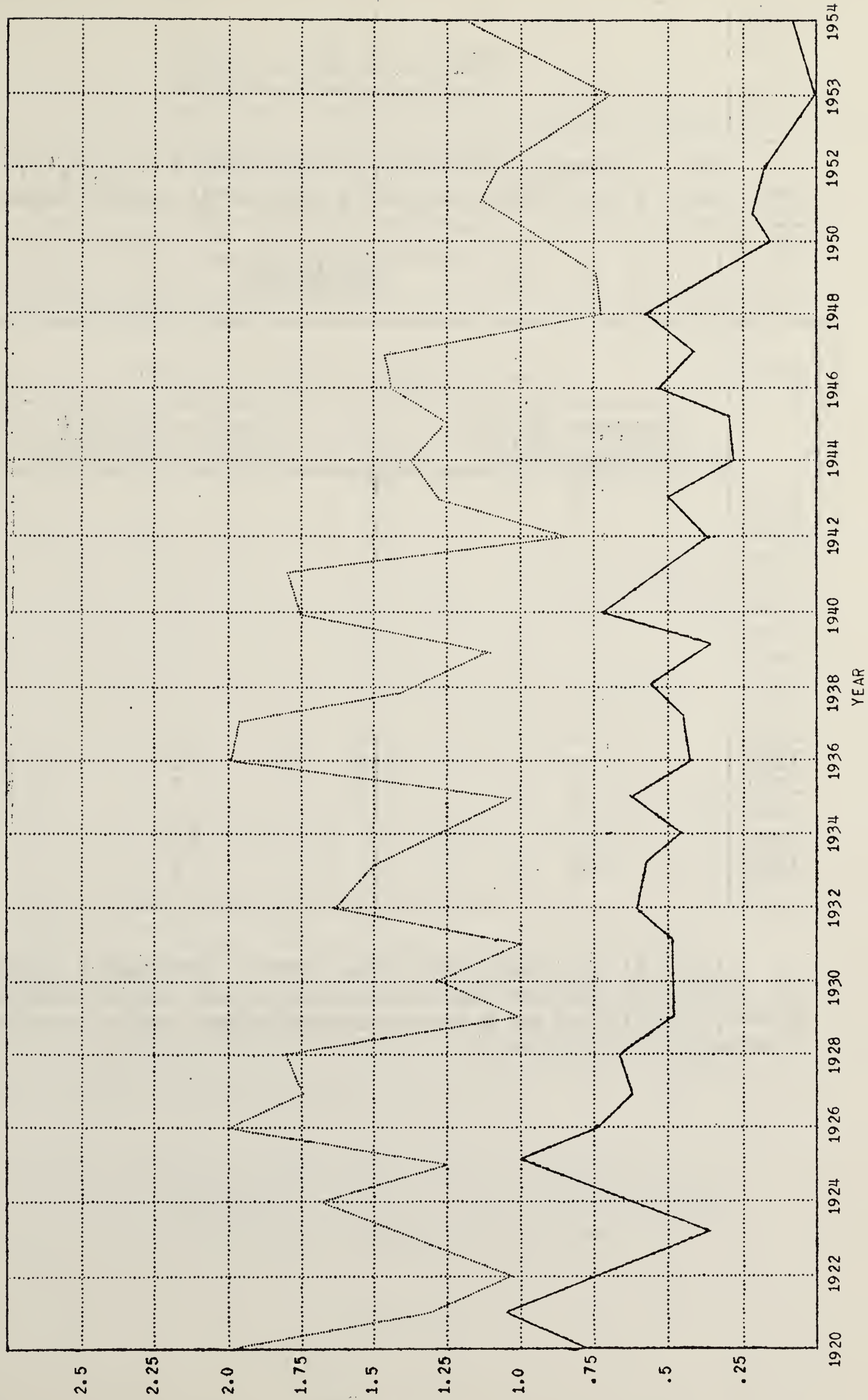
An outbreak of sonne dysentery began in January and continued until April. It appeared to originate in the Millbrook area and altogether 135 patients were involved. A striking feature was the frequency with which whole families were affected and in those where there were several young children the infection persisted in some cases for quite a long time. It was also noted that in the majority of cases the rapidity with which the condition cleared varied directly with the co-operation displayed by the family.

It would appear that in a closed community if energetic measures are instituted at an early date the disease can be controlled but control becomes more and more difficult if preventive measures are delayed and once it has spread into the population generally the task becomes virtually impossible. One's efforts then should be directed against the control of food handlers, canteen workers and school children.

TUBERCULOSIS TREND 1920 - 1954

Notification per 1000 Population

Deaths per 1000 Population



H O U S I N G .

The following table gives the number of houses which have been represented as unfit for human habitation since 1940 :-

TABLE XII.

Year	No. of houses represented	
	Section 12 (1) Closing Order	Section 11 (1) Demolition Order
1940	3	-
1941	-	-
1942	-	3
1943	4	8
1944	2	5
1945	-	4
1946	-	3
1947	1	1
1948	-	-
1949	-	5
1950	-	8
1951	1	2
1952	1	4
1953	4	10
1954	16	1

It will be noted that the number of houses represented as unfit for habitation increased to 17 during 1954 and of these, 1 related to a back-to-back house which was made "through" by the owner.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT
FOR THE YEAR 1954.

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To the Chairman and Members of the
Public Health Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my eighth Annual Report on the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector's section of the Public Health Department and Cleansing Department.

The major event in the year's work was the carrying out of the housing survey. Following a block survey of the town nearly 2,000 houses were inspected and recorded, without any addition to the technical staff. In consequence of carrying out the survey, housing visits increased from 2,780 in 1953 to 5,744 and as a result of this work considerable difficulty was experienced in carrying out other routine work satisfactorily. In conducting a survey of this magnitude it will no doubt be appreciated that in addition to the actual work of inspection a very considerable amount of time is taken in classifying the property and in discussing ways and means of doing this and in deciding the form of presentation. Much time and thought was given to this.

The number of smoke observations was considerably increased and the practice of notifying the results of all observations to the management of the firms concerned was continued. This procedure is, in my opinion, well worth while and managers of factories have expressed appreciation of being informed of good observations as well as when smoke nuisances have occurred.

The amount of waste paper salvaged continues to increase and the figure of 253 tons is the highest ever achieved. Income from this source is quite considerable and is a valuable contribution to the rate fund.

Control of meat ended during the year and the slaughterhouse used by the Ministry of Food is operated by the owners on a limited scale. This slaughterhouse is the only one licensed by the Council - in my opinion a very wise decision.

I would like to place on record my appreciation of the help and co-operation received from the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and the assistance given by the Additional Sanitary Inspector, staff and employees of the Public Health and Cleansing Departments.

Your obedient servant,

J. NORRIS.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

July, 1955.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

17 houses have been represented as unfit for human habitation - 1 demolition and 15 closing orders were made.

VISITS.

	1953	1954
Inspection of Houses	2780	6744
" " Drains, closets, etc. ...	480	505
" " Offensive Accumulations ...	30	24
" " Farms, Dairies, Milkshops ...	2	2
" " Factories	154	108
" " Offensive Trades	14	5
" " Food Premises	622	631
Visits to Slaughterhouse	238	238
" Tip	106	108
" regarding C.D.A.	107	50
" Infectious Disease cases	76	198
" Houses let-in-lodgings and Common Lodging Houses	14	11
" Shops	408	121
Smoke Observations etc.	39	117
Milk Samples	129	110
Water Samples	37	34
Ice Cream Samples	22	24
Rodent Control	1569	1656
Interviews	1092	986
Miscellaneous	420	257
	<hr/> 8389	<hr/> 11924

COMMON LODGING HOUSES AND HOUSES LET-IN-LODGINGS.

There is one registered common lodging house and one house let-in-lodgings. Regular visits are made to these premises.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT DEFECTS.

3 prosecutions were taken during the year and abatement orders were granted by the Magistrates in each case. In 1 of the 3 cases a penalty of £1 and £1 per day after 21 days was imposed and the work was completed within the 21 days.

53 formal and 760 informal notices dealing with 1,488 defects were served.

8 informal notices requiring the provision of 15 ashbins were served.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The survey of unfit houses commenced on the 6th January and caused a considerable amount of extra work in the Department. A modified inspection card was drawn up and following a block survey of the town by the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Sanitary Inspector approximately 2,000 houses were inspected and recorded. Details of the survey are to be found in the Medical Officer of Health's section of the report. The inspection of houses visits rose from 2,780 in 1953 to 6,744 in 1954, this gives some indication of the amount of work involved in carrying out the survey, apart from the very considerable amount of clerical work.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954.

Two applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair and certificates were granted in each case.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS INSPECTION.

Meat Inspection was carried out jointly by the meat inspectors of Stalybridge and Glossop until the end of June. Following decontrol of meat efforts were made to purchase the Slaughterhouse in Buckley Street belonging to the Co-operative Society. Unfortunately negotiations broke down and the owners commenced to operate the slaughterhouse on a limited scale.

The figures in Table I are for meat inspected by the Stalybridge inspectors only for the period ending 30th June and for the whole of the meat from 1st July to the end of the year.

TABLE I.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	321	364	265	3361	177
Number Inspected	321	364	265	3361	177
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	2	2	2	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	93	105	4	146	23
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	28.97	29.39	2.26	4.40	14.12
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	2	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	71	130	-	-	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	22.74	36.26	-	-	2.26

The approximate weight of meat and offal condemned at the Buckley Street Slaughterhouse by the Stalybridge Meat Inspectors is as follows :-

				1953		1954	
Tubercular ...	...	...	...	27429	lbs.	10191	lbs.
Non-tubercular	...	...	...	12142	lbs.	6705	lbs.
				<hr/>		<hr/>	
				39571	lbs.	16896	lbs.
				<hr/>		<hr/>	

Details of meat and offal condemned are as follows :-

	1953	1954
Whole carcase	26	10
Part carcase	83	38
Heads and Tongues	177	81
Lungs	664	298
Diaphragms	190	58
Hearts	118	44
Livers	655	263
Part Livers	208	125
Stomachs	83	25
Mesenteries & Intestines	162	67
Spleens	119	48
Kidneys	32	15
Plucks	154	43
Tails	1	-
Udders	74	13
Lambs livers	2 cartons	-

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The only licensed slaughterhouse is the one in Buckley Street owned by the Co-operative Society and used by the Ministry of Food during meat control. None of the other slaughterhouses in use before the war are now considered fit for use.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OFFAL.

All meat and offal condemned at the slaughterhouse during Ministry control was disposed of to authorised dealers outside the Borough, the Public Health Department being notified by the Slaughterhouse Manager of any change in dealer. When control ended all condemned material was sold by the owner to a firm outside the Borough for processing, after being stained green by the meat inspectors.

In addition the following have been condemned :-

136 tins Meat	9 lbs. Cheese
16 " Fish	85 " Sausage
44 " Soup	39 " Bacon
251 " Vegetables	286 " Ham
242 " Fruit	77 " Meat
56 " Milk	111½ " Tongue
2 " Cream	43½ " Corned Beef
2 " Puddings	30 " Veal
4 " Ham	15 " Bilberries
35 lbs. Fish	10 " Apricot Pulp
14 " Pork	1 " Rice
	6 " Chicken

PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 14
OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

<u>Ice Cream</u>	- Manufacture	1
	Storage and Sale	65
<u>Preserved Foods</u>	- Preparation and Manufacture	69

In relation to ice cream premises the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 - 1952 are complied with.

FOOD PREMISES.

The routine inspection of food premises has continued during the year and 631 visits were made. The following is a list of visits made to different classes of food premises :-

	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
Butchers' Shops	51	136
Bakehouses	86	82
Cafes and Canteens	23	46
Fried Fish Shops... ..	31	12
Ice Cream Manufacturing and Storage	58	63
Fishmongers	23	12
Other food premises	350	280

In February a report was received that a certain brand of imported cream was suspected of being the cause of cases of food poisoning.

Visits were made to 227 shops and warehouses on the day the report was received but none of the suspected brand was on sale in the Borough.

PUBLIC HOUSES.

At the end of the year an Interim Report on the progress of implementing the recommendations of the Public Health Committee regarding conditions in Public Houses was being prepared for submission to the Committee early in 1955.

ICE CREAM. .

Distribution of ice cream within the Borough continues to be very satisfactory, only closed motor vans and trailers specially constructed and equipped with hot and cold water are used .

27 Methylene Blue samples were taken during the year, the results were graded as follows :-

				Manufactured			
				In Borough		Outside Borough	
				<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
Grade 1	...	...	...	5	5	11	7
Grade 2	...	...	...	5	5	2	3
Grade 3	...	...	...	-	4	-	1
Grade 4	...	...	...	-	2	-	-

6 unsatisfactory samples were obtained of ice cream manufactured in this Borough. The methods of sterilizing were investigated in detail and advice given, further samples showed considerable improvement.

MILK SAMPLES.

Details of samples taken during the year and comparisons with 1946 to 1954 are noted below :-

<u>Methylene Blue</u>	<u>Producers in Borough</u>		<u>Producers outside Borough</u>	
	Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
1946	17	-	6	-
1947	19	1	8	1
1948	27	-	5	-
1949	31	3	13	6
1950	23	7	17	4
1951	26	4	23	1
1952	29	1	10	1
1953	41	2	23	1
1954	10	1	25	1

21 samples of Pasteurised Milk were taken. Each sample satisfied the Phosphatase Test.

B. Tuberculosis

1946	17	-	7	-
1947	15	1	9	-
1948	21	-	4	-
1949	25	3	16	-
1950	24	2	19	1
1951	23	4	10	1
1952	27	1	12	-
1953	40	2	31	1
1954	10	1	23	-

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND
STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK)
REGULATIONS, 1949

The following licences were issued under the above
Regulations during the year :-

SUPPLEMENTARY LICENCES

- Pasteurised ... 6
Sterilised ... 8
Tuberculin Tested 6

DEALERS' LICENCES

- Pasteurised ... 31
Sterilised ... 130
Tuberculin Tested 25

REGISTERED MILK DISTRIBUTORS - 140

From the 1st January, Stalybridge was included in a
Specified Area, only Designated Milk being sold (Accredited
being an accepted Designation until 30th September). This
considerably eased the milk sampling problem - most of the
raw milk producers either gave up their milk rounds or
retailed milk processed by large dairies.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

92 observations were taken during the year against 17
in 1953. 10 of the observations exceeded the time limit
allowed for black smoke.

For a very considerable number of years observations
were taken over a period of 1 hour, 10 minutes black smoke
being allowed in the hour. This has now been changed and
the Council have decided that an emission of black smoke
for more than 2 minutes in a half hour observation shall
be a smoke nuisance.

The 10 smoke nuisances which occurred during the year
were investigated and explanations offered by the offending
firms accepted.

RODENT CONTROL.

During the year the Rodent Operator made 1,506 visits and
assisted employees of the Borough Surveyor's Department in
carrying out two sewer treatments. The total number of visits
made to premises in connection with rodent control by all members
of the Public Health Department staff was 1,656.

274 new infestations were reported and successfully dealt with as compared with 211 in 1953.

28 Annual contracts were in force at the end of the year and the total income received from contracts amounted to £149. 10. Od.

12 informal notices were served under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, and complied with.

Details of the work carried out in the Borough as detailed in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries official form is as follows :-

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.
REPORT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 31st MARCH, 1955.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				Agricultural
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	All Other (inc. Business Premises) (3)	Total of Cols. (1) (2) and (3) (4)	
I. No. of properties in L.A.'s District (notes 1 and 2)	7	7534	1493	9034	28
II. No. of properties inspected as a result of :					
(a) Notification	2	111	67	180	-
(b) Survey under the Act	6	59	69	134	-
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	-	-	-	-	-
III. Total inspections carried out - inc. re-inspections	120	623	680	1423	-

	Non-Agricultural				(5) Agri- cultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (inc. Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) and (3)	
IV. No. of properties inspected (in Sect. II) which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats { Major	-	-	1	1	-
Minor	4	15	28	47	-
(b) Mice { Major	1	-	8	9	-
Minor	-	19	54	73	-
V. No. of infested properties (in Sect. IV) treated by the L.A.	5	34	91	130	-
VI. Total treatments carried out - inc. re-treatments	(To be completed only if figures are readily available)				
VII. No. of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing)	-	5	7	-	-
VIII. No. of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec. of the Act	-	-	-	-	-
IX. Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
X. No. of "Block" control schemes carried out	-	-	-	-	-

NOTE 1. - With the exception of agricultural properties, a property means one which is entered separately in the Valuation Roll for the area.

NOTE 2. - (i) Premises used by the L.A. for the purposes of trade should be entered in Col. (3)
(ii) Sewere should not be included.
(iii) Combined dwelling and business premises, where occupied by the same person, should be regarded as business premises and should be entered in Col. (3). Where the dwelling and business parts of the premises are in separate occupation, separate entries should be made in Cols. (2) and (3)..

NOTE 3. - For the purpose of completing Sections II, IV and V, each property should be entered once only in respect of inspections, infestations or treatments.

DISINFECTION.

19 houses were fumigated. 15 beds, 55 blankets, 34 pillows and bolsters and 38 other articles were disinfected.

WASTE WATER CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

The Council has continued to make a grant of £8 or half the cost of conversion whichever is the lower, to owners of property wishing to convert waste water closets. 31 applications for grant were received during the year making a total of 235 since the scheme was commenced in 1947.

DISINFESTATION.

Insecticide containing D.D.T. is used for disinfestation and 8 houses involving 35 rooms have been treated by this method.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No important extension to the sewerage system has taken place during the year.

21 drains, 37 W.W.C.'s, 25 fresh W.C.'s and 43 waste water gullies have been opened by Corporation employees during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

190 visits to bakehouses and other factories have been made during the year as against 240 in 1953. 6 informal notices have been served and complied with.

TABLE II.

INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

1. - Inspections for purposes of provision as to health.

	No. on Re- gister	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	
Factories without Mechanical Power	42	7	-	-
Factories with Mechanical Power	186	190	5	-
Other Premises under the Act (in- cluding works of building and en- gineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
	228	197	5	-

2. - Defects found.

Particulars	Number of defects			Number of defects in respect of which prese- cutions were in- stituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred by H. M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	3	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilating (S.4)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective draining of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences -	-	-	-	-
Insufficient	-	-	-	-
Unsuitable or defective	7	7	6	-
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences	-	-	-	-
	10	10	9	-

OUTWORKERS.

There are five outworkers in the town employed by firms outside Stalybridge. Each outworker is engaged in making wearing apparel.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

1 building is now used for tripe boiling and 2 as Marine Stores for the business of rag and bone dealing. The premises are visited regularly.

REFUSE COLLECTION, DISPOSAL AND SALVAGE.

COLLECTION.

	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
Ashbins emptied	328,725	337,105

The following loads of Refuse were dealt with -

<u>House Refuse</u>	<u>Pails</u>	<u>Salvage</u>	<u>Kitchen Waste</u>
4,271	48	747	37

The estimated weight of house refuse removed was 8,862 tons, based on an average weight of 2 tons $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwts (test weighings).

Provision of Ashbins.

As from April 1st 1952 ashbins were supplied by the Council as a charge against General Rate Fund. During the year 381 bins were supplied to domestic houses and 69 bins were sold.

Sickness.

The high incidence of sickness experienced during 1952 and 1953 was not maintained and it is pleasing to report that the number of working days lost fell from 516 in 1953 to 224 in 1954.

Refuse Collection Vehicles.

A new Karrier Bantam Refuse Collection wagon with modified body, ONE 147, was delivered late in January and put in commission on 1st February.

The old Karrier Bantam wagon, HMA 20, was sold for £70.

Details of vehicles operated by the Cleansing Department are as follows :-

<u>Registered No.</u>	<u>Make</u>	<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Purchased</u>	<u>Price</u> £	<u>Depreciated</u> <u>Year</u>
DTU 83	S.D.	8 cu. yd.	Mar. 1937	542	1943
JLG 62	S.D.	8 cu. yd.	Aug. 1946	866	1953
LMA 802	S.D.	8 cu. yd.	Apl. 1949	1145	1957
PLG 536	S.D.	8 cu. yd.	July 1952	1305	1959
PTU 171	Ford	10 cwt.	Jan. 1953	458	1959
		Van			
ONE 147	Karrier	8/9 cu.yd.	Feb. 1954	850	1961

Refuse Collection.

The termination of kitchen waste collection released a driver and 2 men three days per week for refuse collection duties and the three refuse collection rounds were increased to four, thus providing for additional refuse collection from the new housing estates. No additional vehicle or labour had previously been provided to deal with housing development.

Wage increase.

During August the wages of ashbinmen were increased by 9/2d. per week and drivers by 10/10d. per week.

TAME STREET HOUSE.

In December the house in Tame Street known as the "Destructor" House was sold to the S.H.M.D. Joint Transport Board for £650.

DISPOSAL.

The whole of the house refuse collected was disposed of by controlled tipping at the Brushes Tip. 988 loads of covering material were used.

Disturbances of Tip.

In spite of warnings in the Press and publicity following prosecutions, interference on the tip occurred from time to time. Two boys appeared before the Juvenile Court on 3rd August - the cases being dismissed on the payment of 10/6d. costs each and on 30th August two men were fined 10/- each by the Magistrates.

Fires were started on the tip in March and May but with the assistance of the Fire Service were quickly dealt with.

SALVAGE.

Following the removal of the Direction on the Council to collect kitchen waste, collection ceased on 31st March.

Waste paper prices rose from £6. 10. 0d. to £7 per ton on the 1st November and the tonnage collected increased from 194 tons in 1953 to 253 tons in 1954.

<u>1953</u>	<u>Weight</u>		<u>Income</u>
	<u>T.</u>	<u>C.</u>	<u>£</u>
Paper	194	-	1261
Kitchen Waste	276	7	1034
Metal	15	9	86
Textiles ...	1	-	24
Sundries ...		8	11
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	487	4	2416
	<hr/>		<hr/>

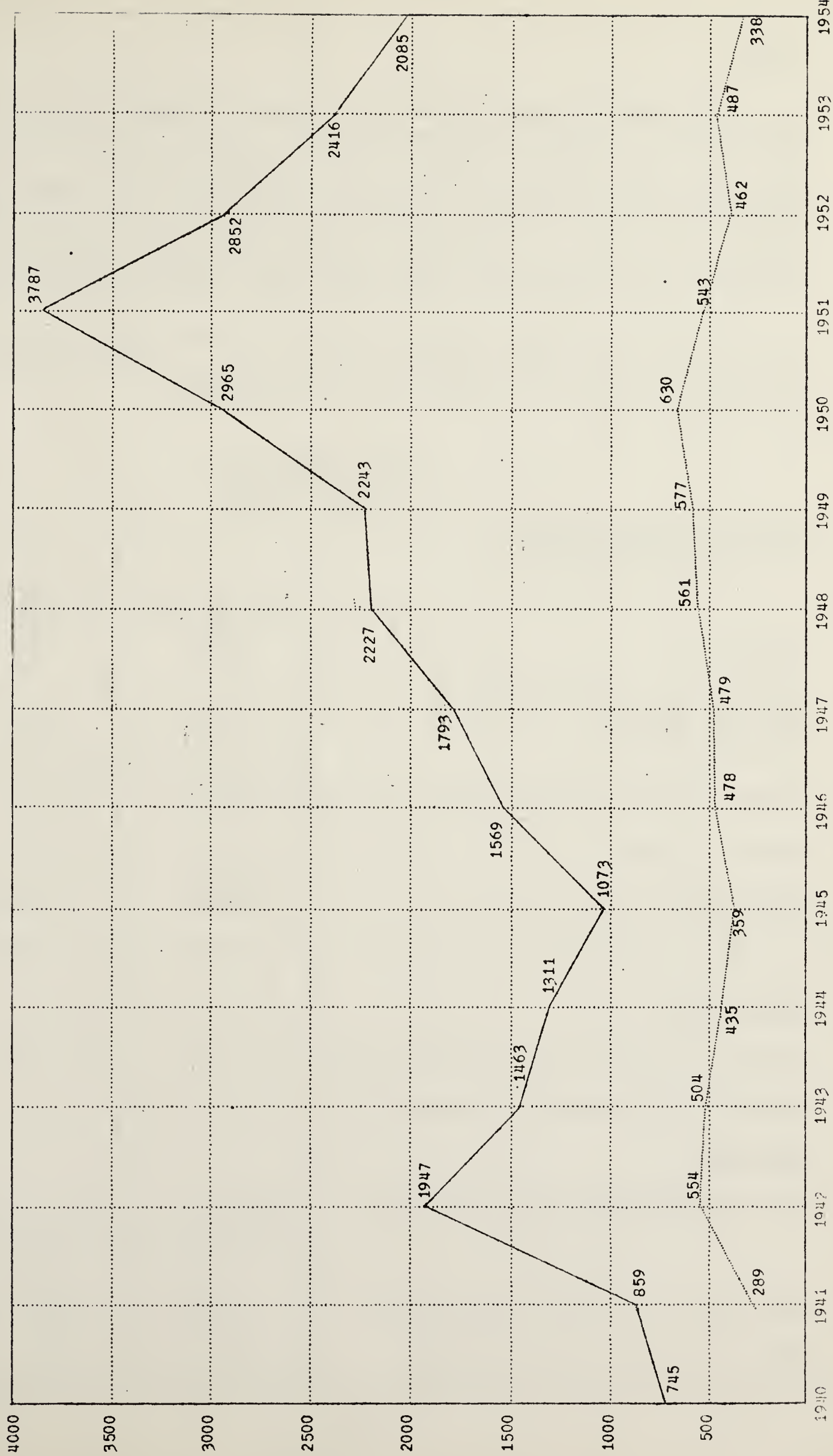
<u>1954</u>			
	<u>T.</u>	<u>C.</u>	<u>£</u>
Paper	252	15	1659
Kitchen Waste	59	8 (3 months)	230
Metal	19	4	111
Textiles ...		17	28
Sundries ...	6	-	57
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	338	4	2085
	<hr/>		<hr/>

SALVAGE 1940-1954

WEIGHT AND INCOME

Weight in Tons _____

Income in £ _____



COSTS.

The costs given below are those included in the Public Cleansing Costing Return submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for the year ended 1953/54. This return will be submitted annually to the Ministry by Local Authorities of over 20,000 population and is similar to the one required before the war. A summary of the whole of the costing returns submitted will be published and interesting comparisons can then be made with Cleansing Costs of other Local Authorities.

It will be noted that Disposal Costs show a credit, this is because the Ministry require all salvage income (apart from raw kitchen waste) to be credited to Disposal.

COST STATEMENT. 1953 - 1954

<u>Gross Expenditure</u>	<u>Collection</u> £	<u>Disposal</u> £	<u>Total</u> £
Labour	6799	775	7854
Transport	3857	-	3857
Plant, equipment, land and buildings ...	1035	231	1266
Other items	432	108	540
Total Gross Expenditure	12123	1114	13237
Gross Income	1150	1569	2719
NET COST	10973	455 Cr.	10518
<u>Unit Costs</u>			
Gross Cost per ton (Labour only)	s. d. 16. 0.	s. d. 1. 10.	s. d. 17. 10.
Gross Cost per ton (Transport)	9. 1.	-	9. 1.
<u>Net Cost</u> (All expenditure less income)	25.11.	1. 1.Cr.	24. 10.
	£	£	£
Net Cost per 1,000 population	487	20 Cr.	467
Net Cost per 1,000 premises	1270	53 Cr.	1217

Other interesting figures not included in the Cost Statement are :-

<u>Cost of Refuse Collection and Disposal</u>	
<u>per person</u>	2.15d. per week.

<u>Cost of Refuse Collection and Disposal</u>	
<u>per premises</u>	5.61d. per week.

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S U P P L E M E N T.

CESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

STALYBRIDGE AND DUKINFELD HEALTH DIVISION

REPORT OF THE
CLERK TO THE DIVISIONAL
HEALTH COMMITTEE
AND
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR 1954

STALYBRIDGE & DUKINFELD DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN -- July, 1953 - June, 1954 - COUNCILLOR J. PORTER, J.P.,
July, 1954 - Dec. 1954 - COUNCILLOR A. HITCHEN.
DEPUTY - July, 1953 - June, 1954 - COUNCILLOR A. HITCHEN.
CHAIRMAN July, 1954 - Dec. 1954 - COUNCILLOR MRS. A. SLACK.

COMMITTEE.

Representing the Local Health Authority.

Chairman of the County Health Committee, Coy. Cr. G. Astbury,
(ex-officio)
Deputy Chairman of the Coy. Health Committee, Coy. Cr. A. Whitley
(ex-officio)
C. Alderman A. Bown, J.P.
C. Councillor J.H.I. Radcliffe, J.P.,
C. Councillor J. Turner, J.P.
C. Councillor J. Wright.

Representing Dukinfield M.B.

Councillor N.T. Ashton, J.P.
Councillor J.S.B. Gow,
Councillor A. Hitchen.
Councillor J. Howard.
Councillor F. Richardson.
Councillor H. Senior. (Died 8th November, 1954)

Representing Stalybridge M.B.

Alderman Mrs. L. M. Gillott.
Alderman Mrs. E. Grundy, J.P., (to June, 1954)
Councillor J. Healey (from June, 1954)
Councillor J. Porter, J.P.
Councillor Mrs. A. Slack.
Councillor W. E. Taylor.
Councillor P. Walton.
Councillor J. Wainwright (from June, 1954).
Councillor Dr. A. Wynroe, J.P. (to June, 1954)

Co-opted Members.

Dr. J. Macfie (Chesh. County Local Medical Committee).
J. Clegg, Esq., M.B.E., (Ashton, Hyde, Glossop Hosp. Management Comm.)
Alderman G. Saxon, O.B.E., J.P., (D/field & S/bridge Div. Executive)
Mrs. E. A. High)
Mrs. M. Wynroe) (Cheshire County Nursing Association.
Mrs. J. Ashton)
Mrs. M. Storrs, J.P.) (Co-opted by Divisional Health Committee)
Mrs. N. Sykes)

S T A F F

Divisional Health Office,
99, Grosvenor Street,
Stalybridge.

Divisional Medical Officer
Assistant County Medical Officer
Chief Clerk
Clerical Assistants

- Thomas Holme, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
- Ena M. Cant, M.B., Ch.B.
- A. Clough.
- J. T. Petrie (resigned Sept./54)
- T. N. Darraugh (apptd. Nov./54)
- Misses J. Norton, D. Ollershaw,
- K. Sellars, O.B. Butterworth
- (Apptd. April/54)

Ambulance Supervisor

- J. Roebuck.

Health Visitors
(Stalybridge)

- Miss S. A. Watson,
- Miss B. Sherratt,
- Miss D. P. Flint,
- Miss C. Makin.

(Dukinfield)

- Miss W. Grimstone,
- Miss W. Jones (resigned July/54)
- Miss W. E. Beresford
- (apptd. Jan./55)

District Nurses
(Stalybridge)

- Mrs. E. Garside,
- Mrs. E. H. Slater,
- Mrs. E. Waite.

(Dukinfield)

- Miss M. Stratton,
- Miss E. Ambler.

School Nurse
(Dukinfield)

- Mrs. E. M. Thomas.

Midwives
(Stalybridge)

- Miss N. Robinson,
- Mrs. F. Dent,
- Miss M. E. Rhodes.

(Dukinfield)

- Miss A. Lees,
- Miss L. Bradley.

Authorised Officer

- J. Thompson.

Physiotherapist

- Mrs. C. Cooke.

Dental Surgeons

- Miss L. Kippen, L.D.S., (part-time basis)
D.P.D.
- Mr. P. White, L.D.S.
(resigned February, 1954)
- Mr. J. Lancashire, L.D.S.
(appointed June, 1954)

Specialists

Ophthalmic Surgeon
Orthopaedic Surgeon
Gynaecologist - Stalybridge

Tuberculosis Physician
Ear, Nose & Throat Surgeon
General Practitioners
attending Welfare Centre,
Dukinfield, on a sessional
basis

- B. Boas, M.D.,
- J. L. Mangan, F.R.C.S.,
- W.E.C. Thomas, M.B., Ch.B.,
M.R.C.O.G.
- E. Ratner, M.D., D.P.H.
- E. M. Innes, F.R.C.S., D.L.O.,
- M. Hillel, M.B., Ch.B.,
(for Dr. Wardley)

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

The three Welfare Centres in the Division are situated as follows :-

Dukinfield - King Street, Dukinfield.

Stalybridge - Mechanics' Institute,
Oakwood Mill, Millbrook (to October)
New clinic, Millbrook (from October)

Sessions are held as follows :-

King Street - Wednesday mornings and afternoons
and Thursday afternoons.

Millbrook - Monday afternoons.

Mechanics' Institute - Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons.

Dukinfield Welfare Centre.

Although the total number of new cases and attendances fell during 1954, partly as a result of the lowered birth rate, the Welfare sessions have been well supported by the mothers.

During the year further internal decoration of the building took place and only the corridors, stairs and upstairs landing now remain to be done to complete the redecoration over a three year period. The fire escape which was found to be dangerous and insecure was pulled down.

Miss W. Jones resigned from her post of Health Visitor and left to take up an appointment in Ellesmere Port in July. She was succeeded by Miss Beresford who came to Dukinfield in January of this year.

Mechanics' Institute.

During the year another focus of dry rot was discovered in the first floor of the building and its eradication involved the weighing room on the ground floor. This caused some alteration to the arrangements for clinic sessions over a prolonged period. At the time of writing the work has been completed and the weighing room although in use, still requires final decoration.

From the staff point of view the year was marred by the last illness of Miss Watson which finally took her off duty towards the end of the year. It is with regret that I have to record her death in March of this year. Miss Watson had been a Health Visitor in Stalybridge for 21 years and did invaluable work both in the clinics and in the town. She devoted much of her free time in giving helpful advice and assistance to all sections of the community and she will be greatly missed by the

mothers and children as much as by the staff. The sympathies of the Committee and Staff are extended to her relatives and friends.

Millbrook.

The new clinic premises were officially opened by Mr. F. Blackburn, M.P., on 8th January, this year but sessions were held from there from October of the year under review. The accommodation is adequate for the present needs in this area and justified the Committee's policy in pressing for a new building to replace the hired rooms which have been in use for many years. I would like to express the appreciation of the Committee and staff for the co-operation of Mr. Taylor in letting us use the Mill Nursery for welfare sessions.

In anticipation of the clinic's completion the Committee appointed Mrs. Wassall as caretaker in August.

Voluntary Workers.

No Welfare Centre could be conducted efficiently without voluntary help and once again we would like to express our gratitude and thanks for the work so willingly and cheerfully given at both Dukinfield and Stalybridge Clinics during the year.

General.

During 1954 the livebirths in the Division fell below the total of the previous year. The figures for the last three years - 1952 - 644; 1953 - 581 and 1954 - 531, show an appreciable reduction of 114 births. Of the births notified 359 or 65.7% took place in hospital, a figure slightly higher than 1953. The number of stillbirths was 15, of which 4 occurred at home and 11 in hospital, or in other words, of domiciliary births 2.16% were stillbirths and of hospital births the figure was 3.16%. This increase of stillbirths in hospital is probably because more difficult and complicated cases are automatically admitted to hospital for confinement.

The work of the Health Visitors continues to be as varied and exacting as ever undertaking as they do clinic sessions and domiciliary visits to a variety of people for a variety of reasons. The "other visits" - 2,802 - which are recorded include visits to domestic help cases, old people, tuberculosis patients and problem families.

	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>
Total births in the Division - livebirths.....	531	581
stillbirths.....	15	13
" no. transfers into the Division.....	127	69
" " of Welfare Sessions held.....	279	284
" " children attending for 1st time 0-1 yr... ..	433	474
" " of attendances..... 0-1 yr... ..	6657	7741
" " " " 1-2 yrs..	1917	2559
" " " " 2-5 yrs..	3714	
" " " visits to new births.....	496	576
" " " secondary visits.....	10335	11781
" " " other visits.....	2802	3433

TABLE A. Child Welfare Clinics.

Quarter		March			June			September			December		
		S/B	S/F	M/B	S/B	D/F	M/B	S/B	D/F	M/B	S/B	D/F	M/B
Polio													
New cases.	0-1 yrs.	65	43	17	66	38	18	45	39	11	38	33	20
Total	0-1 yrs.	825	720	237	913	686	244	762	645	192	619	574	234
Attend.	1-2 yrs.	198	154	67	265	195	63	228	217	64	205	175	88
Expos.	2-5 yrs.	161	146	122	197	145	146	173	157	96	156	131	84

The following table indicates the total births in the Division and the place of confinement :-

TABLE B.

	<u>Dukinfield</u>						<u>Stalybridge</u>					
	1954	<u>Live</u> 1953	1952	1954	<u>Still</u> 1953	1952	1954	<u>Live</u> 1953	1952	1954	<u>Still</u> 1953	1952
ake Hospital	84	124	124	2	4	3	174	168	183	7	3	8
ther Maternity omes	48	66	44	-	1	-	42	47	56	2	1	1
omiciliary onfinement	68	59	86	1	1	1	115	117	151	3	3	8
Total	200	249	254	3	6	4	331	332	390	12	7	17

Welfare Foods.

These consist of National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Cod Liver Oil and Vitamin Tablets and until June, 1954 they were sold through the local offices of the Ministry of Food. In July the responsibility for their sale was placed on the Local Health Authorities and the Cheshire County Council decided that arrangements should be made by Divisional Health Committees. In the scheme which was drawn up and submitted in May by this Division it was decided to sell the food each week-day from the Divisional Health Office where it could also be stored and from the clinics during normal clinic hours. In Stalybridge a member of the staff is responsible but in Dukinfield the Voluntary Committee agreed to undertake the task, a fact which has helped us considerably and I would like to express my appreciation of the valuable work done by them at this clinic.

For the extra work which this distribution and sale required extra staff was needed and a clerk was appointed on the basis of part-time for sale of Welfare Foods and part-time for work in connection with B.C.G. vaccination.

The sale of food has proceeded satisfactorily - minor modifications to the cellar of the building were necessary to provide storage - but I would point out that the lack of space on the ground floor is acutely felt during busy periods particularly by the general office staff.

Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics.

The ante-natal clinic only dealt with 34 new cases during the year and 27 patients attended the post-natal clinic. These numbers are very low when it is remembered that there were 546 births in the Division, but it must be appreciated that the practitioners carry out ante and post-natal work in their own surgeries and many patients attend the Ashton General Hospital clinics.

Ante-natal Clinics

	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>
No. of sessions held.....	25	29
No. of new cases.....	34	29
No. of attendances.....	184	162
No. of patients on whom Rh.factor was investigated....	30	30
No. of patients on whom a Wasserman test was performed	34	23

Post-natal Clinics

No. of new cases.....	27	44
No. of attendances.....	34	57

SPECIALIST CLINICS.

<u>Ophthalmic (under 5 yrs.)</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>
New cases.....	20	25
Total attendances.....	66	43

<u>Ear, Nose & Throat (under 5 yrs.)</u>		
New cases.....	8	5
Total attendances.....	8	5

Physiotherapy (under 5 yrs.)

A large amount of most useful work is carried out at the physiotherapy sessions and altogether 1,734 attendances were made during 1954.

Total attendances for interview by Orthopaedic Surgeon.	166	222
Total attendances at Physiotherapist's Clinic.....	245	484
Total attendances for U.V.R. treatment.....	1489	1527

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Ante-natal patients	- new cases.....	1	2
	- attendances.....	1	9
Post-natal patients	- new cases.....	2	3
	- attendances.....	5	12
Children under 5 yrs	- new cases.....	26	30
" " " "	- attendances.....	37	33
Dentures supplied.....		-	4

DAY NURSERIES.

There was a slight increase in the total attendances during the year which on the whole was uneventful. There were no major repairs necessary and the main equipment expenditure was on a new gas cooker which was installed in November. The health of the children was good and they were examined at frequent intervals by Dr. E. M. Cant.

The cost per child/day increased once more and though the rise was less than the previous year it amounted to 3½d. over the County and 3¾d. at the Dukinfield Nursery. The cost is now 11/8d. per child per day of which the parent contributes 2/- to 4/- according to circumstances.

	1954	1953
Total attendances...0-2 yrs.....	2434	2639
...2-5 yrs.....	5232	4881
Average attendance per child for 12 mths. (in dys.)...		
0-2 yrs.....	221	120
2-5 yrs.....	249	217
Average attendance per day.....	32	31
New cases admitted.....	16	14
Waiting list as at 31/12/54.....	16	16
No. of mothers in employment.....	38	34
No. of medical examinations carried out.....	269	336
No. of children receiving sunlight treatment.....	-	16
No. of children attending specialist clinics.....	-	1

TABLE C.

Year	1948/49	1949/50	1950/51	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54
County Average child/day	7/6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	8/3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	9/6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.	9/3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	11/3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	11/7d.
Dukinfield child/day	9/4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	10/0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	9/6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.	9/11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	11/4 $\frac{5}{8}$ d.	11/8d.
% attend- ance County Average	None available	84%	77%	79%	71.5%	79%
Dukinfield	-	87%	91%	94%	87.5%	89%

FACTORY NURSERIES.

The supervision of the following factory nurseries is the responsibility of the Cheshire County Council and your Medical Officer visits them at frequent intervals :-

Staley and Millbrook Ltd.,
Victor Mill Ltd.,
Robert Byrom (Stalybridge) Ltd.,

At the beginning of the year an outbreak of sonne dysentery occurred at one of these nurseries and 17 of the children and staff were affected. By careful supervision and exclusion of cases the outbreak was eventually brought under control.

MIDWIFERY.

The Committee has had very little work in connection with the midwives in the area who are administered centrally. The County vehicle used by Miss Rhodes received normal maintenance throughout the year.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

It is to be regretted that the number of vaccinations during 1954 fell to almost half of the previous year's total. In my opinion this is due to the removal of the fear of an outbreak of smallpox which hung over this area in 1952 and 1953. In those years there were outbreaks in the immediate neighbourhood.

In contrast to vaccination the figures for immunisation against diphtheria improved appreciably and the numbers increased from 553 to 816. Table E shows the marked improvement in the figures for this area over the past three years though the numbers protected still falls below the recognised safe level of 75%

The majority of children in this area are immunised with the combined whooping cough and diphtheria vaccine and it is hoped that eventually the former disease will fall in incidence as has diphtheria itself.

TABLE D.

Vaccinations - 1954.

Age at 31.12.54.	- 1	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 - over	Total
Born in year	1954	1953	1952 - 50	1949 - 40	Before 1939	
Vaccinated	104	92	23	38	29	286
Re-vaccinated	-	-	-	3	29	32

The figures for the six complete years since vaccination ceased to be compulsory are as follows :-

1949	-	76
1950	-	223
1951	-	350
1952	-	459
1953	-	611
1954	-	318

Diphtheria Immunisation.
1940 - 54.

The following table shows the number of children at 31st December, 1954, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time since 1st January, 1940 :-

TABLE E.

Age at 31.12.54. i.e. Born in year	Under 1 1954	1 - 4 1953-1950	5 - 9 1949-1945	10 - 14 1944-1940	Under 15 Total
Last complete course of injection (whether primary or booster) A. 1950 - 1954	48	1306	1546	544	3444
B. 1949 or earlier	-	-	668	1229	1897
Estimated child population	9256				
Immunity Index	57.2%				

	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
Total no. of children immunised by general practitioners at their own surgeries	166	136	111	145	153
Total no. of children immunised at Clinics	650	417	237	327	235
Total	816	553	348	472	388

Total No. of children immunised against Whooping Cough only - 22

Ambulance Service.

During the year under review the total number of patients carried increased to 12,199 from 11,377 for the previous twelve months. In spite of this; however, the mileage was reduced by approximately 6,000 miles as a result of more economical use of the ambulances and by picking up patients on a prearranged route thus avoiding as far as possible journeys for only person. There was no increase in staff during the year but there were

two resignations and two new appointments. One of these resignations led to an enquiry by the Ambulance Sub-Committee to which the Ambulance Supervisor was called. The Sub-Committee felt generally satisfied with Mr. Roebuck's evidence and recommended that complaints or suggestions should in the first place, be made through official channels and also that in the future the Committee should have a report on the reasons for resignations.

The Sub-Committee also inspected the Depot and decided on several improvements most of which had been suggested by the men. These have been completed at the time of writing and I am pleased to report a more settled atmosphere at the Depot.

Three vehicles sustained damage through accidents and one of the ambulances was off the road for eleven months. In fact 1954 was the most trying year the Depot has experienced from a vehicle point of view and I would like to express my appreciation of the co-operation of other Divisions who helped us out by loaning ambulances whenever the shortage of vehicles threatened to embarrass the service.

The Committee considered the question of entering into a contract with Messrs. Lomas's Ltd., for the routine inspection of ambulance bodies but decided against it.

The establishment of ambulances, cars and staff in the Division during the year was as follows :-

<u>Vehicles</u>	-	3 ambulances, 1 sitting case car.
<u>Staff</u>	-	1 Supervisor, 2 Attendants, 6 Drivers, 1 Sitting Case Car Driver.

TABLE F.

Stalybridge.

	No. of vehicles	Total No. Journeys	Total No. patients carried	No. of Accident & Emergency Journeys inc. in col. 3.	Total Mileage
DIRECTLY Amb.	3	+(99) 2115	+(103) 4582	+(32) 46	+(1895) 16936
PROVIDED Cars	1	+(53) 1569	+(53) 3009	+(13) 38	+(1026) 16676

+ passengers not included in total picked up outside the administrative County other than same day returning out-patients.

Dukinfield.

	No. of vehicles	Total No. Journeys	Total No. patients carried	No. of Accident & Emergency Journeys inc. in Col. 3.	Total Mileage
DIRECTLY Amb.	as	1228	2738	21	9502
PROVIDED Cars	S/bridge	831	1714	25	8425

Comparative Table of Journeys etc.,

Year	Journeys	Patients	Mileage	Accidents
1949	5929	8238	27052 ⁺	414
1950	6502	11140	58221	555
1951	7235	11812	61450	587
1952	7013	12139	63094	592
1953	5640	11377	60864	161
1954	5895	12199	54460	175

⁺ Stalybridge figures only.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year the number of notifications was 45, an increase of 9 over the previous year and the total cases on the register was 303 at the end of 1954. Every effort is made to prevent the spread of this disease. Both Stalybridge and Dukinfield Housing Committees give priority to the rehousing of tuberculosis patients living in overcrowded or insanitary conditions, visits are paid regularly by the Health Visitors who give advice on all matters relating to the condition, and nursing requisites are available through the loan cupboard. In addition a close liaison is maintained with the Chest Clinic in Ashton-u-Lyne.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>
	M	F	M	F	
On Register at 31.12.54.	141	115	22	25	303
Notified during 1954	26	15	-	4	45

Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Age

0	-	1 years	-	-	-	-
1	-	5 "	-	-	-	-
5	-	15 "	-	-	-	-
15	-	45 "	-	-	1	1
45	-	65 "	5	1	-	4
65 and over			1	-	-	1

B.C.G.

This Division was chosen as one of the first three to carry out the work of vaccinating school children with B.C.G. in their thirteenth year, and a start was made in March. B.C.G. vaccination requires more detailed preparation and follow-up and more clerical work than immunisation against diphtheria and in order to perform it effectively it was decided to appoint a part-time clerk - when taken in conjunction with the sale of welfare foods this meant the appointment of an additional full-time clerk in the department.

I am pleased to report a very good response on the part of parents 80% of whom consented to the vaccination of their children, and in addition the head teachers did everything to facilitate the work of this department. With the help of teachers and parents and through the full support of the Committee the scheme got away to a good start and it is hoped that in the years to come the results will justify the action that has been taken.

During the year 247 were vaccinated out of 549-eligible children and the figures for this year so far indicate that we shall continue to vaccinate at about this level.

In addition to school children the opportunity was taken to vaccinate contacts of tuberculosis cases, work which had previously been carried out at the Lees Street, Ashton-u-Lyne Dispensary and 51 contacts were vaccinated during the year. This figure is included in the 247 quoted above.

	School children	Contacts
Number	483	66
Consents	375	64
% Consents	79.97	
Mantoux Positive	153	15
% Positive	40.6	23.4
No. Vaccinated	196	51

NURSING REQUISITES.

The following items of nursing equipment have been issued from the Stores based on the Ambulance Depot, King Street, Stalybridge, and on the office of the Authorised Officer, Dukinfield :-

Hot water bottles	6	Drinking cup	1
Bed cradles	2	Bed	1
Air rings	18	Wheel chairs	1
Back rests	21	Crutches	3 prs.
Urinals	14	Bed pans	54
Air bed	1	Mackintosh sheets	10
Commode	1		

A total sum of £16.5.0d. has been received in rentals for this equipment.

CONVALESCENT HOME TREATMENT.

Five applications for a reduction in the charge were received and considered by the Committee and in 3 cases this was reduced.

A sum of £125 was once again granted by the County Health Committee to be used in the financial assistance of persons requiring Convalescent Home treatment within the Division. Arrangements are still in operation with the three Convalescent Homes at Llandudno, St. Annes and Marple. 10 patients were admitted during the year - 8 adult females, and 2 adult males. 4 of the patients paid the whole cost of treatment and 6 received financial assistance.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

Eleven applications for a reduction in the charge were received and considered by the Committee and in 7 cases this was reduced.

At the beginning of the year the County introduced a scheme for the recovery in full and after death of the cost of providing a home help in the case of a person with capital assets but little income. In the main it applies to aged persons living in their own house and several cases in this area were affected. While designed to prevent abuse I do feel that because of it some old people have preferred not to avail themselves of a home help even though they were in need of one.

The work of the service continues to increase. The establishment of the service at 31st December, 1954, was 9 full-time and 13 part-time domestic helps, the whole of the staff being engaged in a temporary capacity.

No. of Cases attended by Domestic Helps.

	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
(a) Maternity Cases, Sick & Nursing Mothers	12	16	12
(b) General Sickness.....	19	27	25
(c) Aged and chronic sick.....	137	118	104
	<u>168</u>	<u>161</u>	<u>141</u>

It will be noticed that though the total cases attended increased by 7, the working hours decreased by 1,575 to 25,025 and the average number of cases attended weekly was 91.

137 of the total 168 were long-term continuation cases of the aged person or chronic sick type, a percentage of 81.54. The number of maternity and nursing mother cases decreased by 4 and chronic sick cases increased by 19 over the previous year.

REPORT OF THE DULY AUTHORISED OFFICER, MR. J. THOMPSON,
IN RESPECT OF WORK CARRIED OUT WITHIN THE AREA OF THE
STALYBRIDGE AND DUKINFIELD HEALTH DIVISION DURING
THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

1. Precis of cases dealt with under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Cases dealt with under Sec.20 Lunacy Act,1890, i.e. admitted to hospital as cases of urgency on the order of the authorised officer	1	1
Cases dealt with under Sec.21 Lunacy Act,1890, i.e. admitted to hospital on the order of a magistrate for observation for 14 days	3	5
Cases dealt with under Sec.16 Lunacy Act,1890, i.e. certified as being of unsound mind	5	12
Cases dealt with under Sec. 1 Mental Treatment Act, 1930, i.e. admitted to hospital as voluntary patients	5	3

In addition to the above 5 males and 3 female patients were dealt with as out-patients where their condition was not sufficiently serious to warrant their admission to hospital. In 4 cases information was laid to the authorised officer but the cases were dismissed by the magistrate after examination. 7 cases were referred to the authorised officer but on examination were found to be of sound mind. 1 patient recovered whilst awaiting admission. 1 patient was admitted under Sec. 26 Magistrates Courts Act.

2. Visits were made to homes of mental defectives in mental defective colonies in order that reports on home conditions could be submitted to the colonies concerned.
3. In the case of 12 men and 5 women admissions were arranged to chronic sick wards for local general practitioners during the year.
4. 4 men and 14 women and children were admitted to residential accommodation on behalf of the County Welfare Officer.
5. Arrangements were made for the admission of 1 mentally defective child to a colony.
6. After care visits have been made to patients discharged from mental hospitals on numerous occasions during the year with a view to assisting them to rehabilitate themselves in public life.

7. Domiciliary supervision visits have been made to male mentally defective patients in the area at regular intervals during the year.
8. Items of nursing equipment have been issued from store during the year as detailed elsewhere in the Report of the Divisional Medical Officer.

